

TOBACCO USE BY STUDENTS

Health professionals have determined that the use of tobacco products can be detrimental to one's health. The Board wishes to encourage good health practices among the students of this District, as well as compliance with Federal and State Law. Therefore, the Board prohibits the smoking, use or possession of tobacco in any form, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, clove cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff, alternative nicotine products, electronic cigarettes and any other forms of tobacco by any student in any area under the control of the District or at any activity supervised by any school within the District.

All students of the Columbia Local School District will adhere to the laws of the State of Ohio and the regulations set forth by the school administration in relation to the use or possession of smoking materials or tobacco.

Tobacco Use Prohibited

No student is permitted to smoke, inhale, dip or chew tobacco at any time, including non-school hours:

1. in any building, facility or vehicle owned, leased, rented or chartered by the District or
2. on school grounds, athletic facilities or parking lots.

No student is permitted to smoke, inhale, dip or chew tobacco at any time, including non-school hours, at any school-sponsored event off campus.

Additionally, no student is permitted to possess cigarettes, other tobacco products, papers used to roll cigarettes, lighters or other paraphernalia at any time.

Providing Notice

"No Tobacco" signs will be posted throughout the District at entrances and other appropriate locations in all academic buildings, administrative spaces and athletic fields. Students are provided notice of this policy through student handbooks. District vehicles will display the international "No Smoking" insignia. Announcements will be made during home athletic events both before the event and during intermission, as well as at all school functions where deemed appropriate. School programs will include a written reminder of the no tobacco use on District property policy.

Students and parents are given copies of the standards of conduct and statement of disciplinary sanctions, and notified that compliance with the standards of conduct is mandatory. Disciplinary measures taken against students for violations of this policy comply with the requirements of Federal and State law and related District policies and regulations.

The penalties below will ordinarily apply in the absence of any contrary indicator based upon the circumstances of a particular case or a student's record. A lesser form of discipline or no discipline may be imposed where a student has violated this rule if mitigating circumstances exist.

No student will be suspended or expelled for smoking rules unless the notice and hearing requirements for suspensions or expulsions prescribed by Board policy have been followed prior to suspension or expulsion.

- First Offense - The student may be suspended from school for five days.
 Second Offense - The student may be suspended from school for ten days.
 This Offense - Third and all subsequent offenses; the student may be suspended and referred to the Superintendent for possible expulsion.

Disciplinary measures taken against students for violations of this policy comply with the requirements of Ohio law and related District policies.

The offenses are cumulative during a pupil's years in each division of the system's organizational pattern: elementary (K-4), middle school (5-8), high school (9-12).

Adopted: April 5, 1979
 Revised: March 17, 1999
 Reviewed: October 16, 2002
 Revised: October 16, 2007
 Revised: March 19, 2014
 Revised: June 4, 2014

Legal Refs.: The Elementary and Secondary Education Act; 20 USA 1221 et seq.
 Goals 2000: Educate America Act; 20 USC 6081 through 6084
 ORC 3313.66; 3313.661; 3313.751
 3794.01; 3794.02; 3794.04; 3794.06
 OAC 3391-35-02; 3301-35-04

Cross Refs.: JFA, Student Due Process Rights
 JFC, Student Conduct
 JGD, Student Suspension
 JGE, Student Expulsion
 Student Handbooks/Codes of Conduct

Columbia Schools, Columbia Station, Ohio